GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5388
ANSWERED ON:06.04.2017
Fall in Ground Water Level
Roy Prof. Saugata

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the steps taken by the Government to check the steep fall of ground water level in various parts of the country;

(b) whether the Government has assessed the long standing impacts of the serious drought situation and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to promote rainwater harvesting in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION
(DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) to (c) Steps taken by the Government to check the steep fall of ground water level and promote rainwater harvesting in the Country are available at the following URL http://mowr.gov.in/writereaddata/GW_Depletion.pdf.

In the eventuality of drought & flood, State Governments are empowered to initiate necessary relief measures from State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) which is readily available with them. Additional financial assistance, over and above SDRF, is considered from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) on receipt of drought relief memoranda from State Governments and in accordance with extant norms and procedures. Government has a well-defined system of assessing and announcing estimates of agricultural production each year.

Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation had constituted technical teams comprising officers from regional offices of Central Water Commission and Central Ground Water Board for on the spot study of water situation in drought affected areas during 2016.

The Technical Teams have suggested various long/short term measures based on the region/area/states specific to mitigate water scarcity situation. Construction of water harvesting structures, mass awareness among citizens for water conservation, construction of new water storage structures, interlinking of rivers, renovation and repair of existing water bodies are commonly recommended.
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